

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T STATE 013704

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CHONA'S CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON

1. CHONA LEFT WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 19 FOR NEW YORK, LONDON AND LUSAKA. DURING HIS STAY HE MET SECRETARY KISSINGER, SECRETARY DESIGNATE VANCE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE AND NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR DESIGNATE ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI. IN ADDITION TO THESE MEETINGS, HE CALLED ON SENATOR CLARK AND CONGRESSMEN YOUNG AND DIGGS.

2. DURING HIS SESSIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT, CHONA DISCUSSED THE PRESENT STATE OF THE RHODESIAN NEGOTIONS, THE JAN. 8-9
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FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS' MEETING, AND SWAPO PROPOSALS ON A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT. HE GAVE SECRETARY KISSINGER A BRIEF LETTER FROM KAUNDA AS WELL AS A LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD.

3. WITH RESPECT TO RHODESIA, CHONA REITERATED THE PRESIDENTS' BACKING FOR RENEWED GENEVA TALKS BUT ALLOWED RICHARD WAS MAKING LITTLE HEADWAY AND WOULD NOT OBTAIN A

SERIOUS REACTION FROM THE PATRIOTIC FRONT UNTIL WRITTEN PROPOSALS WERE ADVANCED. (THESE HAVE NOW BEEN CLEARED IN LONDON AND ARE BEING CIRCULATED TO THE PARTIES). CHONA WAS CRITICAL OF RICHARD'S CONDUCT OF HIS MISSION, CHARACTERIZING IT AS LACKING FORCE AND DIRECTION.

4. HE INDICATED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD OBJECT STRONGLY TO THE EXTENT OF POWERS THE BRITISH SEEK TO RETAIN FOR AN INTERIM COMMISSIONER, THE COMPOSITION OF A NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, THE IMPLIED AUTHORITIES OF AN ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND THE ABSENCE OF A PRIME MINISTER IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

5. CHONA STOUTLY DEFENDED THE PRESIDENTS' BACKING OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WHICH HE PREDICTED WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY THE OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE WHICH MEETS SHORTLY IN LUSAKA. HE CLAIMED THE PRESIDENTS WERE TRYING TO LIMIT THE POSSIBILITY OF CIVIL WAR AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIRECT SOVIET TIES WITH LIBERATION GROUPS. HE ALSO ARGUED MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE WOULD NOT BE LEFT OUT OF ELECTIONS IN ZIMBABWE BUT WAS AMBIGUOUS ABOUT THE ROLE THEY WOULD PLAY IN AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT. THE PRESIDENTS WOULD NOT OPPOSE THEIR RETURN TO GENEVA BUT WOULD DENY THEM SUPPORT THERE.

6. REGARDING NAMIBIA CHONA PRESENTED SECRETARY KISSINGER NEW SWAPO PROPOSALS. EXCEPT FOR AN INDICATION SWAPO IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE IN GENEVA, THESE PROPOSALS DO NOT DIFFER IN ANY IMPORTANT DEGREE FROM SWAPO'S PUBLIC POSITION.
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TION. CHONA SUGGESTED THAT IF WE FELT THE CONDITIONS WERE CORRECT, THE UN SHOULD BE ASKED TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE.

7. ONCE SOLUTIONS WERE FOUND IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA, THE STATUS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD CONCENTRATE ON INTERNAL CONSOLIDATION. SOUTH AFRICA WOULD CHANGE IN TIME WITHOUT DIRECT INTERVENTION AND SOUTH AFRICAN BLACK MOVEMENTS WOULD RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL AND NOT ARMED SUPPORT.

8. IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING POINTS, CHONA DELIVERED TO SECRETARY DESIGNATE VANCE AN ORAL MESSAGE FROM KAUNDA OF GOOD WISHES AND A WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE CLOSELY IN THE REGION. HE CALLED FOR IMPROVED TIES, ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, WITH ZAMBIA. HE UNDERLINED THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS' COMMITMENT TO ARMED STRUGGLE AT THE SAME TIME NEGOTIATIONS ARE PURSUED.

9. THE SECRETARY DESIGNATE TOLD CHONA SOUTHERN AFRICAN

POLICY WAS UNDER INTENSIVE REVIEW. HE REITERATED THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENTS AND OUR SUPPORT OF THE BRITISH. HE SAID WE WOULD MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THE PRESIDENTS AS WELL AS ALL AFRICAN STATES INCLUDING NIGERIA, INTERESTED IN A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT.

10. CONCERNING NAMIBIA THE SECRETARY DESIGNATE SAID WE ATTACH HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION AND INTEND TO CONTINUE OUR ROLE AS INTERMEDIARY.
HABIB

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